investment in highway sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the last 3 years the number of projects awarded to the private sector companies are as under:

1999-2000	-	1
2000-2001	-	2
2001-2002		10

(c) Following incentives have been offered to attract the private investors in the development of road infrastructure.

(i) 100% tax exemption for 10 years to be availed within 20 years.

(ii) Concession period allowed upto 30 years.

(iii) Duty free import of major modern high capacity equipment for highway construction.

(iv) Government to provide land at no cost and free from all encumbrances.

(v) Government to provide capital grant upto 40% of the project cost to enhance viability, on a case-to-case basis.

(vi) National Highways Authority of India permitted to participate in equity of BOT projects upto 30% of the total equity.

(vii) Foreign direct investment allowed upto 100%.

Roads in Tamil Nadu

1773. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schemes taken up by his Ministry for development of roads in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the amount of funds allocated for such schemes during the current year; and

(c) the details of the progress of such schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) to (c) The Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways. Funds allocated for development and maintenance of National Highways in Tamil Nadu and their progress during the current financial year is given as under:

Rs. in Crore

Scheme	Allocation	Financial Progress upto 30.11.2002
National Highways	139.86	70.67
National Highways Development Project (being implemented by NHAI)	400.00	221.41

Ministry also allocates funds for development of State roads under Central Road Fund (CRF) and under Economic Importance & Inter-State Connectivity Schemes. Funds allocated and the progress under these schemes is given as under:

(i) Works Under Central Road Fund (CRF) *Rs. in Crore*

Total Allocation in the last three years	No. of works Sanctioned	Amount approved	Amount released till date	Expenditure up-to-date
200.68	255	155.50	82.34	82.29

(ii) Works Under Economic Importance & Inter-State Connectivity Schemes

Ministry has approved three works amounting to Rs. 234.40 lakh under Inter-State Connectivity in March 2002. Detailed estimate for one of these works is under consideration in the Ministry, detailed estimates for the balance two works are awaited from the State Government. No expenditure has been made on these works.

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†1774. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.